

REMARKS

The indefiniteness in Claim 3 and in main Claim 13 is corrected as suggested by the Examiner. No new matter has been added. Claims 13-15 are now deemed to be in condition for allowance.

Main Claim 1 is now amended to more clearly define that the core assembly has a movable base member mounting the wedge members with guide grooves spaced at equal intervals circumferentially around its periphery adapted to engage the respective guide rails which are fixed to the sidewalls in the hollow interior space for guiding movement of the core assembly within the pile body. The Fujita U.S. Patent 5,975,808 does not mention or suggest the use of a movable base member guided by guide rails fixed to the sidewalls in the hollow interior space of the pile body. The Gatien U.S. Patent 3,487,646 only discloses the use of spaced lands on an exterior wall of one pile section which are matched to valleys on an interior wall of another pile section for guiding its movement therein. Gatien does not disclose or suggest a movable base member mounting the wedge members and having guide grooves spaced at equal intervals circumferentially around its periphery adapted to engage respective guide rails fixed to the sidewalls of a pile body. Depending Claims 2-10 are deemed to now be patentable for the same reasons. Claims 1-10 are now deemed to be in condition for allowance.

Main Claim 11 is now amended to more clearly define that the magnet cross gauge has recesses and respective magnets adjacent thereto of the same number as guide rails to be attached to the sidewalls which are spaced at equal intervals circumferentially around its periphery and are aligned in parallel with the longitudinal axis and adapted to retain the guide rails respectively in the recesses by magnetic force of the adjacent magnets. The additionally cited Shiraishi U.S. Patent 5,746,638 does not disclose or suggest this guide rail carrying structure of the magnet cross gauge. Accordingly, Claim 11 is deemed to be patentable over Shiraishi, along with depending Claim 12, and Claims 11-12 are now deemed to be in condition for allowance.

Main Claim 16 is now amended to more clearly define that the method for manufacturing a pile assembly includes a step to carry the given number of guide rails

into the hollow interior space of the pile body and maintain the guide rails at desired equal intervals circumferentially around the periphery of the sidewalls in parallel with respect to one another by employing a magnet cross gauge having respective recesses and adjacent magnets around the periphery thereof for retaining the guide rails therein.

The additionally cited Shiraishi U.S. Patent 5,746,638 does not disclose or suggest this guide rail carrying structure of the magnet cross gauge. Accordingly, Claim 16 is deemed to be patentable over Shiraishi, along with depending Claims 17-19 previously indicated to contain allowable subject matter, and Claims 16-19 are now deemed to be in condition for allowance.